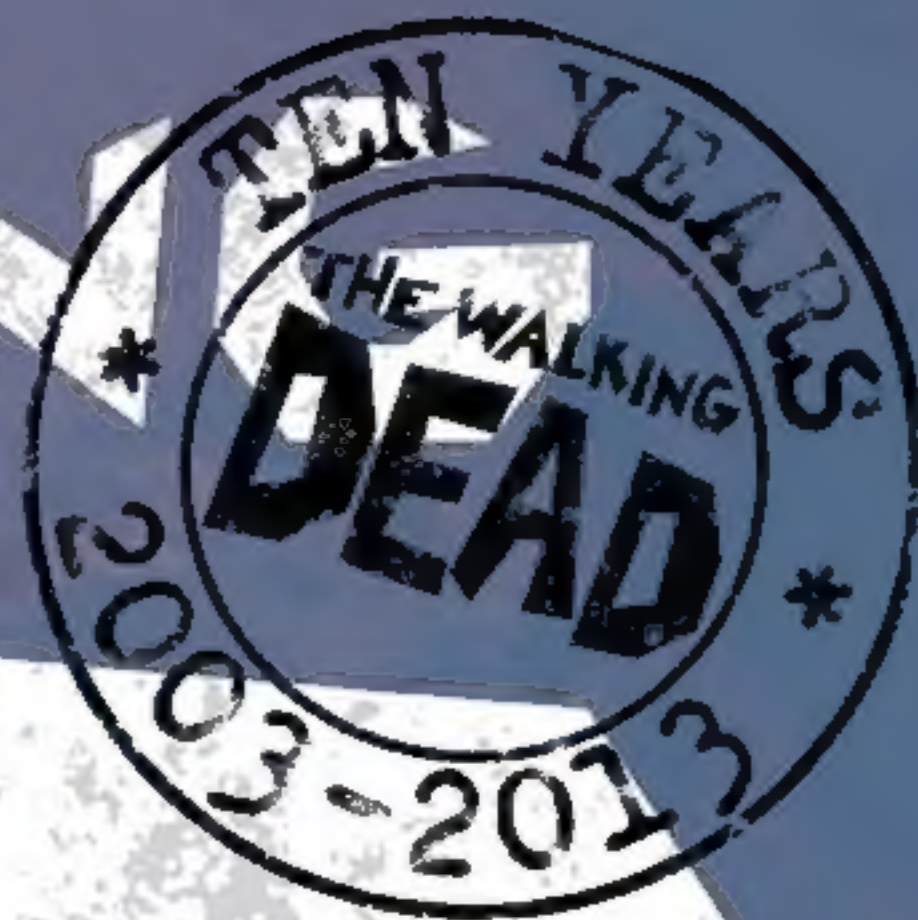


image

SKYBOUND

115

THE WALKING DEAD



ALL OUT WAR

CHAPTER 1 of 12

KIRKMAN • ADLARD • GAUDIANO • RATHBURN

IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

THE WALKING DEAD™

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CHARLIE ADLARD

Penciller, Cover

STEFANO GAUDIANO

Inker

CLIFF RATHBURN

Gray Tones

RUS WOOTON

Letterer

DAVE STEWART

Cover Colors

SEAN MACKIEWICZ

Editor

Previously:

After Jesus and Ezekiel's troops drive the Saviors out of Alexandria, the sides are set. The Kingdom and the Hilltop factions have aligned with Rick's survivors against Negan. Now, they march to war...

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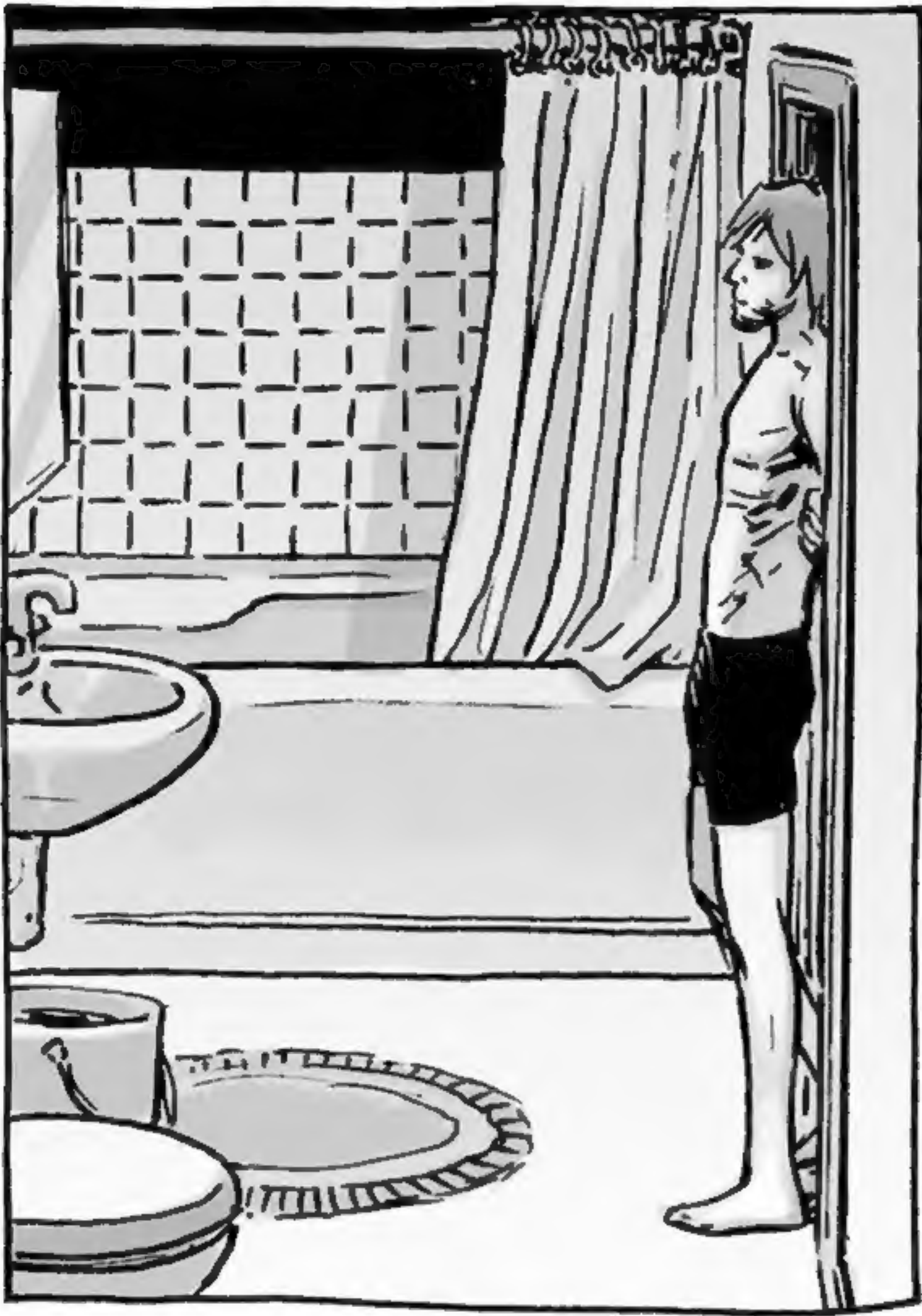
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THEN
THE WAY
I SEE
IT...

...WE'VE
BEEN AT WAR
SINCE THE
BEGINNING.



...



CAN I ADMIT TO
YOU... WHAT I'D
NEVER ADMIT
TO ANYONE
ELSE...

I HAVE
DOUBTS.



OF COURSE
YOU DO.

I FEEL LIKE
SOMETIMES
PEOPLE THINK I
HAVE IT ALL
FIGURED OUT...
OR THAT I AT
LEAST THINK I
DO... THAT I'M
CONVINCED.



BUT
ANDREA...



I ALMOST
GOT MYSELF
KILLED.



JESUS SAYS I'M SOMEONE HE CAN FOLLOW, THAT I'LL MAKE THINGS RIGHT... **REBUILD THE WORLD.**

THAT SEEMS LIKE A LOT TO PUT ON ONE MAN.

I'VE ONLY EVER TRIED TO KEEP THOSE I'VE LOVED SAFE.



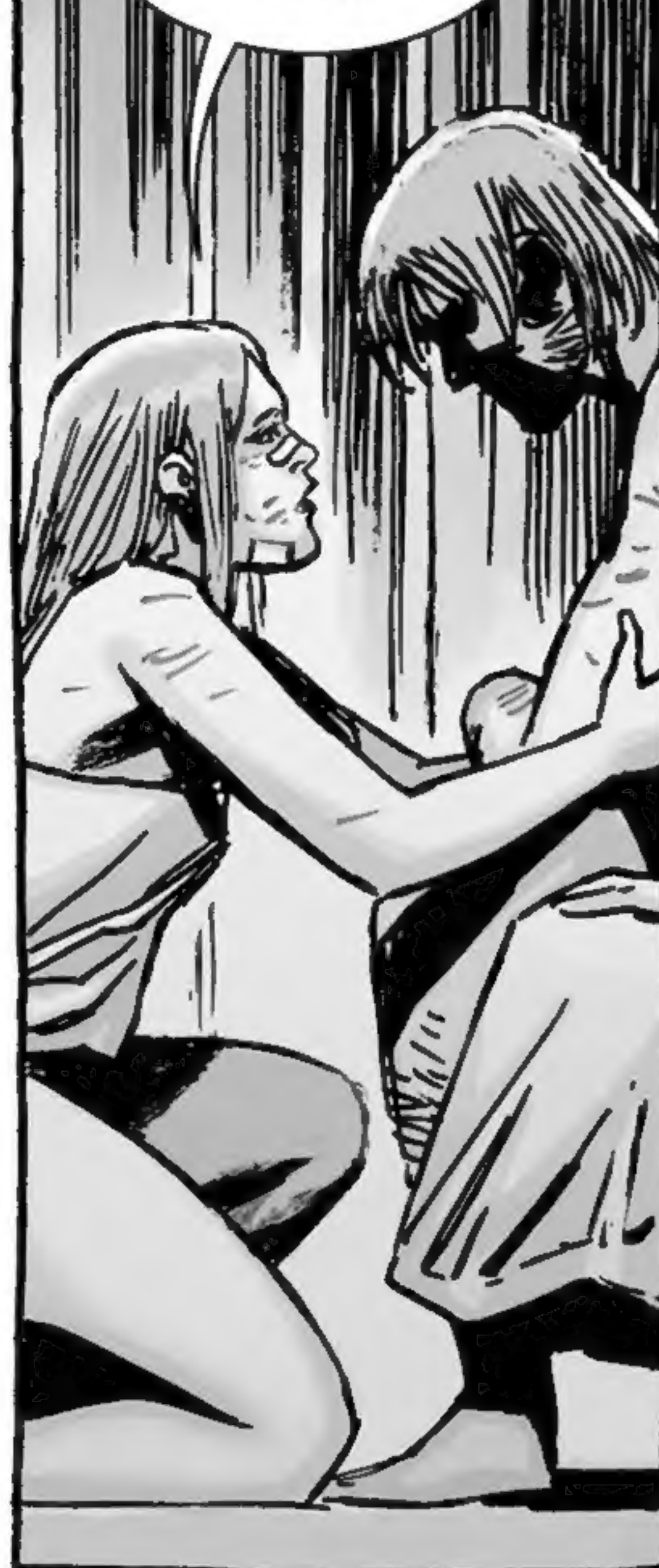
AND I HAVEN'T DONE A VERY GOOD JOB AT THAT.

NOBODY DOES A GOOD JOB ANYMORE. YOU'VE DONE BETTER THAN MOST.

AND YOU KEEP TRYING. THAT MAKES YOU DIFFERENT.



DO YOU FEEL LIKE LIFE WILL BE **BETTER** IF WE WIN THIS WAR?



WE CAN'T LIVE BY THE WHIMS OF NEGAN... WE'LL NEVER SURVIVE.

THAT PSYCHO WOULD BE THE DEATH OF US ALL.



OKAY THEN... SO WHATEVER COMES OF THIS... WHATEVER IT TAKES.

IT'LL BE WORTH IT.



THANKS
FOR LETTING
ME STAY
AT YOUR
PLACE.



YOU KNOW
THIS DOESN'T
MEAN
ANYTHING.



I DON'T
KNOW
THAT, AND
YOU DON'T
EITHER.



DON'T
MISUNDERSTAND
ME, YOUR
MAJESTY.

THIS HAS THE
POTENTIAL TO
EVENTUALLY
MEAN SOMETHING...
BUT FOR NOW...

IT
DOESN'T.



I CAN
LIVE WITH
POTENTIAL.
POTENTIAL
HAS
PROMISE.

I CAN
WORK WITH
POTENTIAL.

GOOD,
NOW GO
DOWNSTAIRS AND
MAKE SURE YOUR
STUPID TIGER
DIDN'T TEAR
APART MY
BATHROOM.

I'LL MAKE
COFFEE.





WE'VE WORKED THROUGH THE NIGHT TRYING TO GET AT LEAST TWO MORE CASES READY FOR TODAY.

WE'LL HIT THAT MARK IN LESS THAN AN HOUR.

SEEMS YOU COME AROUND TO SEEING HOW IMPORTANT THIS IS.

THANK YOU.

AFTER ABRAHAM DIED... I WANTED TO KILL **EVERYONE**. THEN I STARTED TO THINK ABOUT HOW EVERYONE HAS SOMEONE WHO CARES ABOUT THEM... THAT WE SHOULD SAVE LIVES, NOT TAKE THEM.

BUT NOW I REALIZE THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO DO THAT... TO PRESERVE LIFE. THE BAD ONES HAVE TO DIE.

OR MADE TO NOT BE SO BAD.

WE'LL SEE.



I KNOW I
HAVEN'T
ASKED A LOT
OF MOST OF
YOU... YOU'VE BEEN
ALLOWED TO LIVE
HERE AS YOU HAVE
WITHOUT GIVING
ANYTHING IN
RETURN.

BUT NOW OUR
WAY OF LIFE IS
THREATENED... OUR
LIVES HERE COULD
END, WE HAVE TO DO
SOMETHING ABOUT
THAT... AND I NEED
YOUR HELP TO DO
SO.

I NEED
SOME OF YOU
TO COME WITH
US. YOU KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE--AND I
APPRECIATE THE
RISKS YOU'RE
WILLING TO
TAKE.

THE REST
OF YOU...
I NEED YOU
PREPARED.

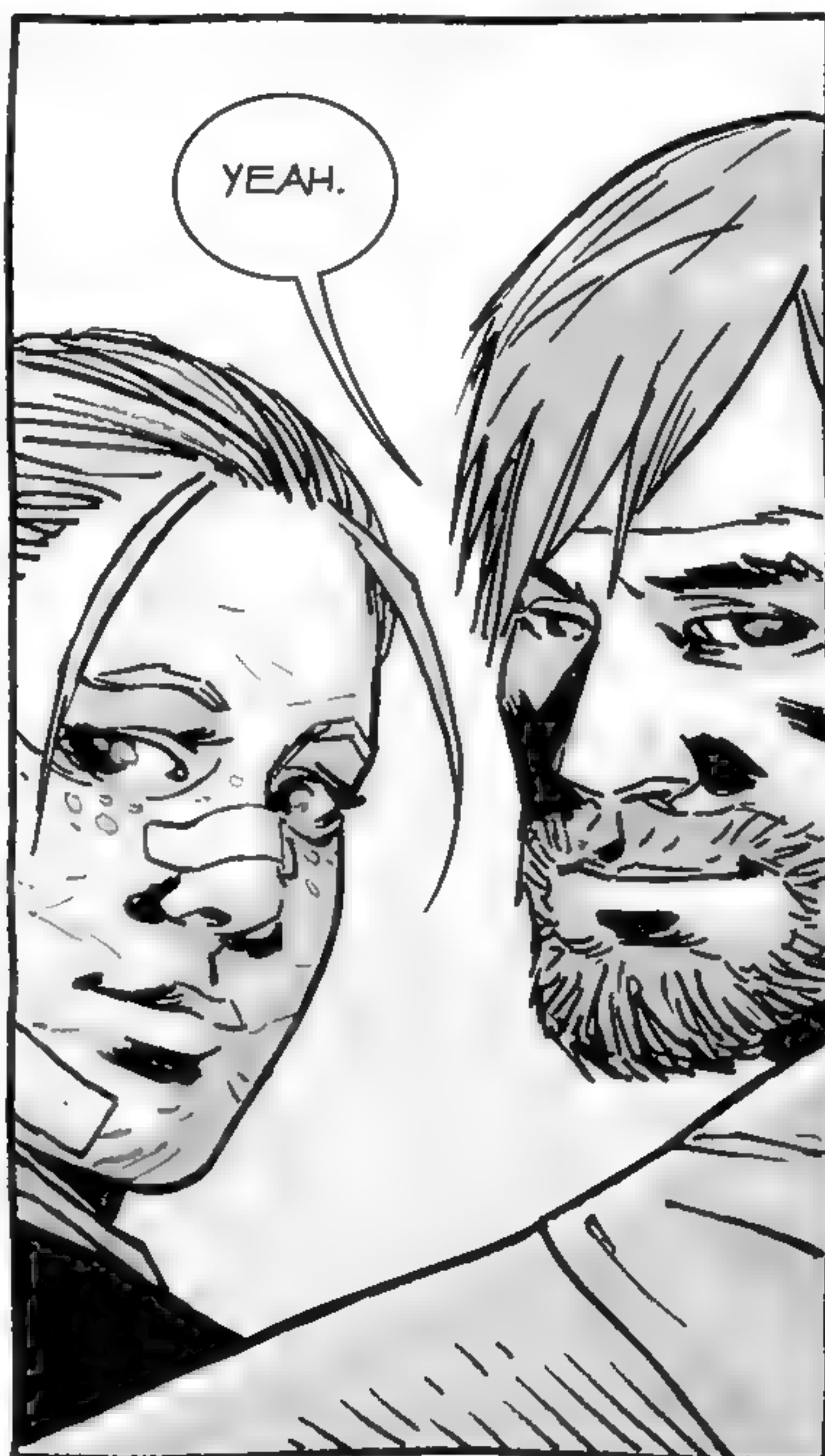
WE'RE
STARTING
DOWN A PATH...
AND I DON'T
KNOW HOW LONG
IT IS, OR WHERE IT
GOES ALONG THE
WAY... BUT I
KNOW IT **ENDS**
IN A GOOD
PLACE.

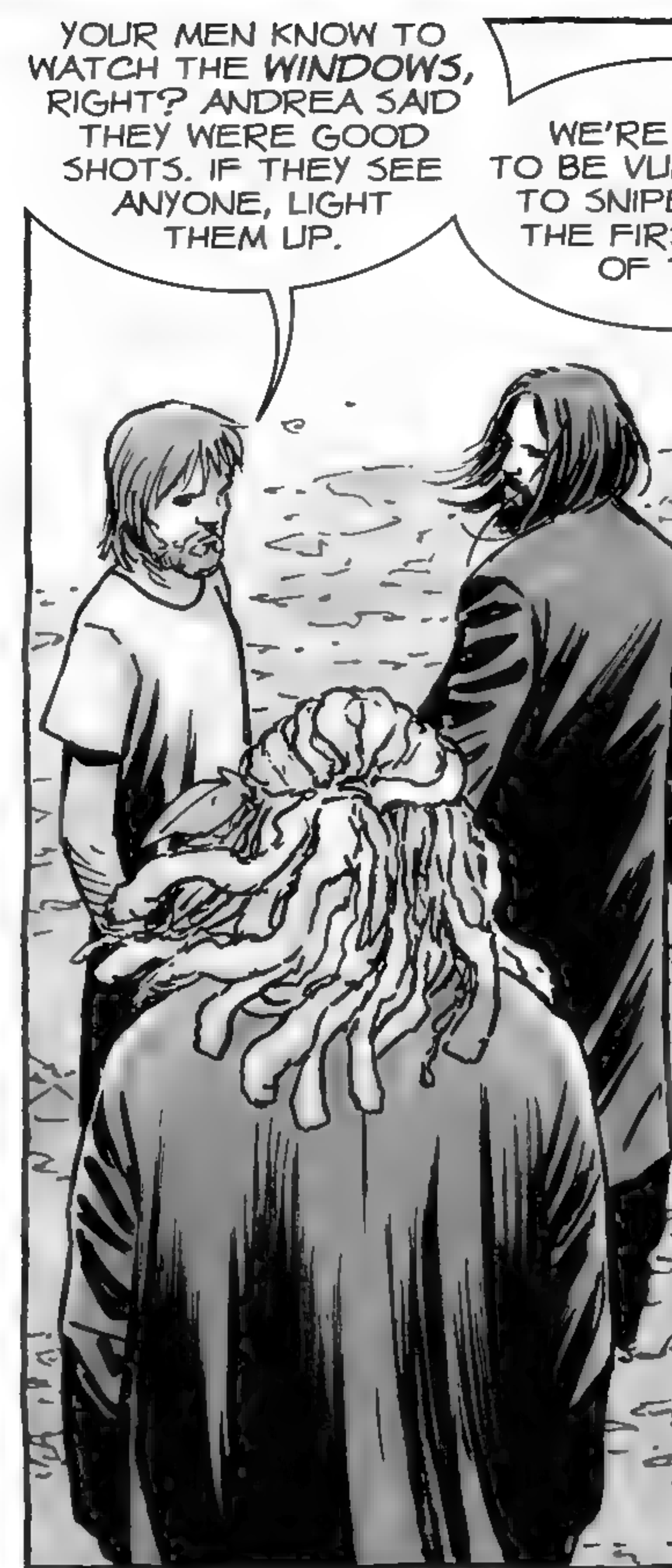
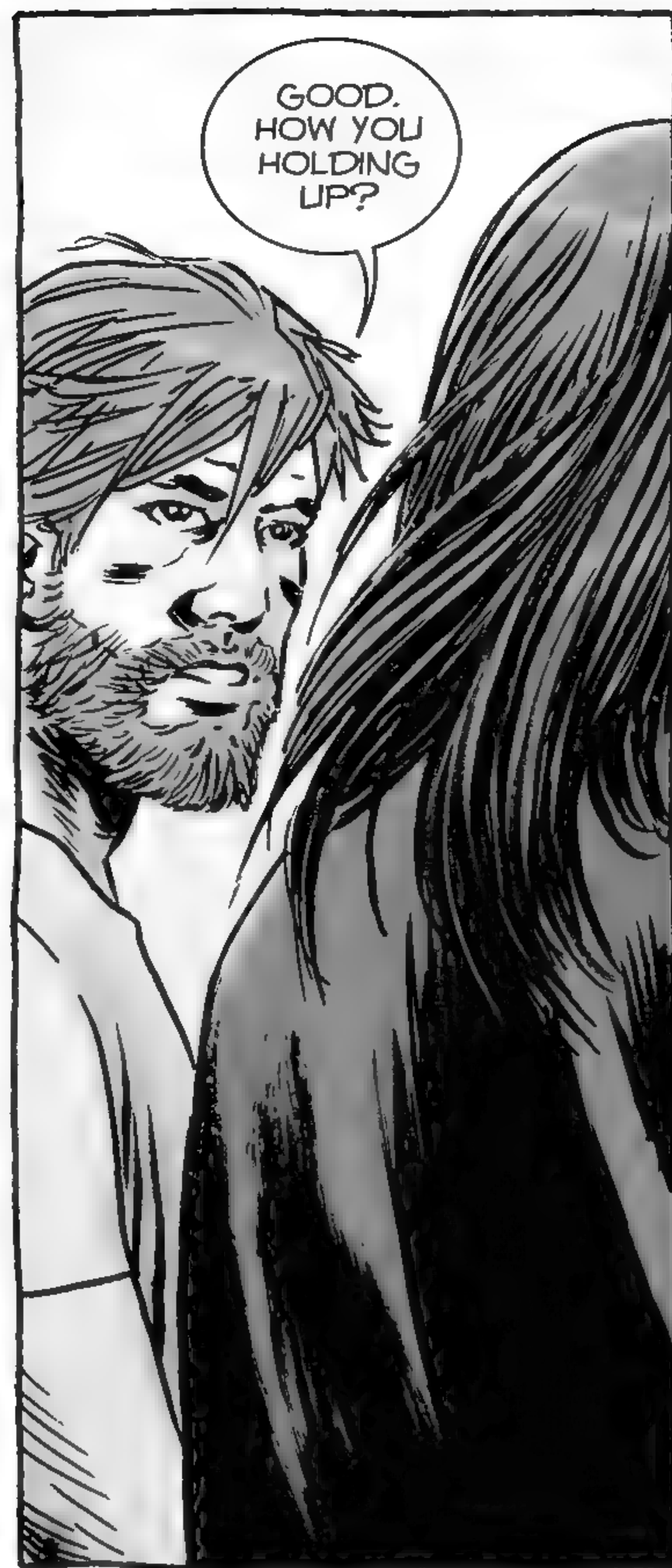
I NEED YOU
READY TO
DEFEND THIS
PLACE AND
EVERYONE IN IT...
IF IT COMES TO
THAT.

I KNOW
NONE OF US
ARE SOLDIERS...
BUT UNTIL THIS IS
OVER... LET'S
KEEP THAT TO
OURSELVES.



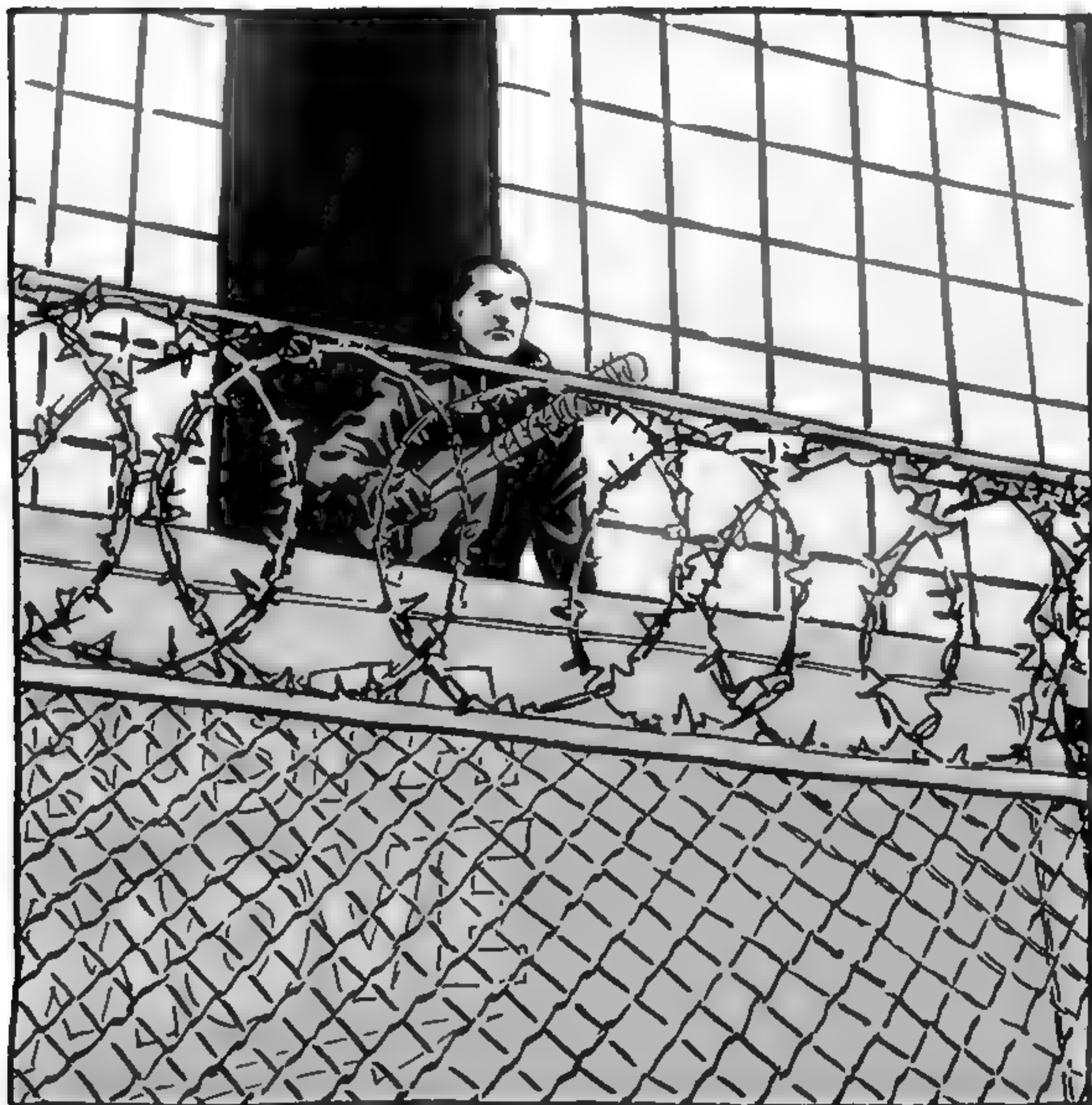
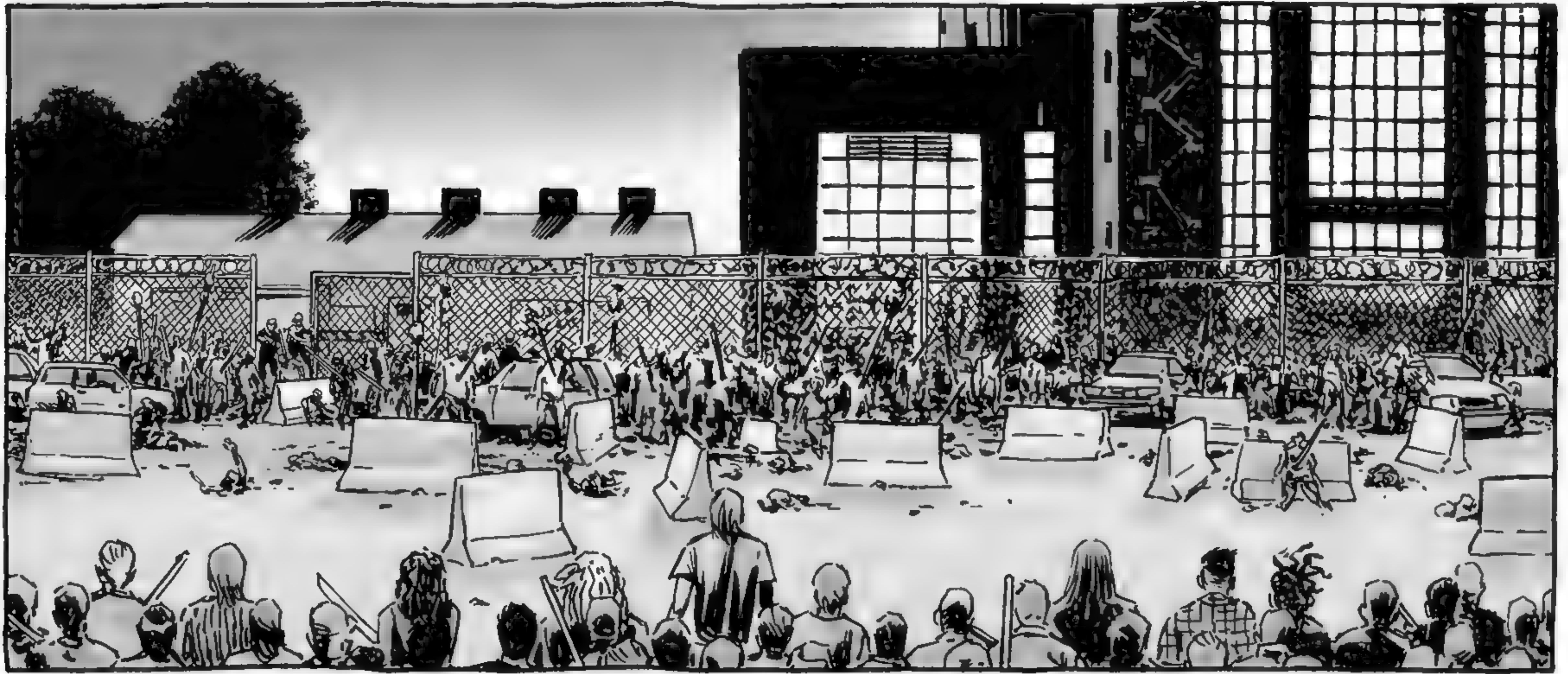


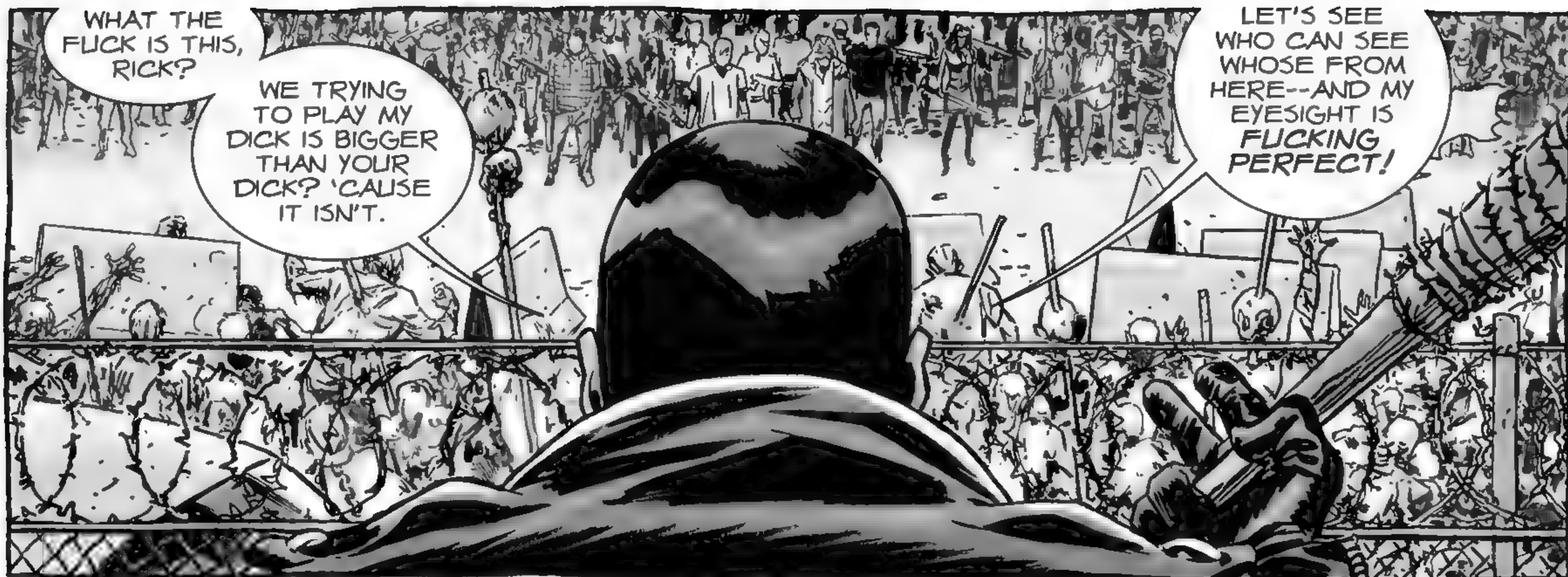




BLAM! BLAM!







WHAT THE
FUCK IS THIS,
RICK?

WE TRYING
TO PLAY MY
DICK IS BIGGER
THAN YOUR
DICK? 'CAUSE
IT ISN'T.

LET'S SEE
WHO CAN SEE
WHOSE FROM
HERE--AND MY
EYESIGHT IS
**FUCKING
PERFECT!**



THAT'S NOT WHAT
THIS IS. THIS ISN'T
A THREAT, THIS
IS AN OFFER... FOR
PEACE.

WE STAND
BEFORE YOU THREE
COMMUNITIES UNITED,
SAYING TO YOU AND
YOUR PEOPLE--**NO
MORE!** WE WILL NOT
GIVE YOU OUR
SUPPLIES, WE WILL
NOT BOW TO
YOUR WILL.

**THOSE
DAYS ARE
OVER.**



BUT THERE DOESN'T
NEED TO BE VIOLENCE,
WE DON'T HAVE TO
FIGHT OVER THIS. I
FEEL LIKE WE'D ALL
PREFER NOT
TO.

WE'RE
GIVING YOU
A CHANCE TO
SURRENDER.

WE KNOW YOU
HAVE CHILDREN
INSIDE AND PEOPLE
WHO ARE NOT A PART
OF THIS... WHO ARE NOT
SAVIORS, WHO HAVE
NOT ATTACKED OR
KILLED ANYONE.

THOSE
PEOPLE WILL
BE SPARED,
THEIR LIVES
CAN CONTINUE
AS THEY ARE.



AND WHAT
OF THE
OTHERS? ME...
THE REST?

**THE KILLERS
WHO HAVE BEEN
KEEPING YOU
ALL SAFE.**



ONCE, A LONG TIME AGO, I MADE A RULE...
I THINK MAYBE IT'S
TIME TO FINALLY
STICK TO IT.

YOU KILL
AND YOU
DIE.



SO LET ME GET THIS
STRAIGHT. I FUCKING
SURRENDER MYSELF
AND ALL MY MEN, AND
YOU PUT US TO DEATH...
BUT OUR FAMILIES
WILL ALL GET TO LIVE
ON HAPPILY
WITHOUT US.

YOU REALLY
THINK WE'RE
GOING TO GO
FOR THAT?

WHAT
HAPPENS
IF WE
REFUSE?



EVERYONE
OUT HERE...
FIGHTS THEIR
WAY IN
THERE.

THEN
WHATEVER
HAPPENS...
AND IT
WON'T BE
PRETTY.



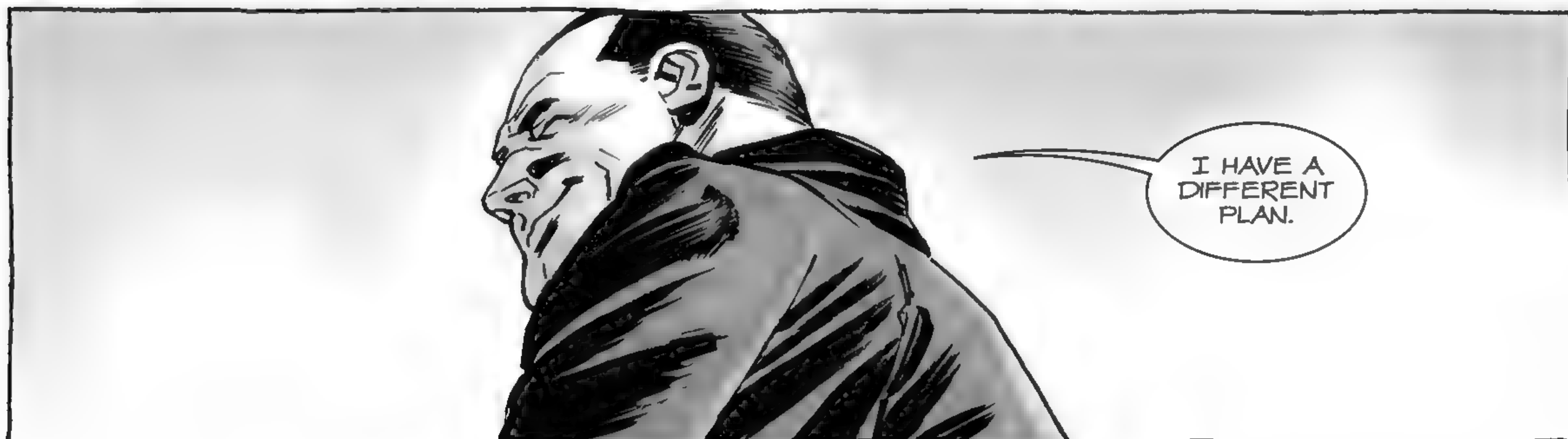
HMMM.



THAT'S FUCKING RICH.



SURRENDER, AS YOU SURE AS FUCK KNOW... IS NOT AN OPTION. BUT THEN AGAIN, NEITHER IS RUBBING OUR COLLECTED GENITALS TOGETHER ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE UNTIL WE ALL DIE.





LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

ALL OUT WAR...it's here. The armies have marched. The sides are drawn. Next month, the bullets fly.

For all of you going to NYCC this weekend (10/10-13), both Robert and Charlie will be there signing every day, and the Skybound booth will be slinging all sorts of exclusive Walking Dead merch, so please stop on by. My favorites: the Faction logo t-shirts and messenger bags. Claim your allegiance at the start of AOW, and pray you chose the right side.

My favorite is the Walking Dead bubble gum and the water guns... boy that Kirkman is a sell out.

Speaking of selling out... did you guys hear the news of the SECOND WALKING DEAD TV SHOW?! Holy smokes, that's pretty crazy, right? I know the the initial reaction to that can always be "whoa, too much of a good thing... greedy much?" But honestly, I want to reassure people that I'm doing everything in my power to ensure that the Walking Dead companion show has as much (if not more) punch as the parent show, and the idea of telling stories set in this universe on television without having the comic as a road map is REALLY exciting to me. As exciting as when I first started writing this book. The most important thing is that the parent show, featuring Rick and all the rest, is going to be completely unchanged by this extra show. And of course, this comic will continue, unchanged, which remains of utmost importance to me.

So I'm confident it's not too much... but we won't know until 2015, so... fingers crossed!

Let's answer some mail! NO WAIT!! THERE'S MORE TO DISCUSS!!

Holy crap we welcome two new artists into the Walking Dead fold with this issue! Taking over on coloring the covers is comics' own DAVE STEWART! You may know him from Hellboy or a million other fine books. He's great! Also, a big round of applause for inker STEFANO GAUDIANO who will be helping Charlie out on art for the duration of this 12 issue storyline. I think you'll agree both of these fine gentlemen have done a bang up job with their respective duties.

Now onto letters!

Hello Mr. Kirkman,

Just finished issue 113. It was great. One thing though, when Negan compares Carl to Humpty Dumpty, he talks about the difficulties of horses putting eggs back together. To that I say: where in the nursery rhyme does it explicitly say that Mr. Dumpty is an egg? Go ahead, say the rhyme out loud.

Keep up the good work!

Jordan Bourne
Vancouver, BC

I don't know how they do things in Vancouver, Jordan... but as a child, I think I first encountered the Humpty Dumpty nursery rhyme in Richard Scarry's nursery rhyme books... and he's

portrayed as an egg there... and he's also an egg in Shrek, right? So I don't know where that came from... but to me, Humpty Dumpty has always been an egg. I guess Negan read the same books as a kid that I did... weird.

Dear Kirk,

2 months ago, I decided to give these comics a chance because I was such a big fan of the show. Now the show doesn't come close to doing these comics justice! My jaw has dropped numerous times throughout the series. Can't wait for the all out war! I have some thoughts to throw out and let dry, so here we go.

1. I am a huge fan of killing off characters. The way you get everyone attached to these characters just to watch them leave, is pure genius. It makes this series what it is. So keep breaking our hearts, please.

2. DONT EVER PRINT IN COLOR. The covers are masterpieces, but for the actual strips, leave them as is. I know you are standing your ground for black and white, so I'm just saying good choice.

Much love for the series,

Ethan Sather

Expect to get your heart broken, and expect to see THE WALKING DEAD #1 10th Anniversary Edition in stores right now, with coloring by Dave Stewart. It looks really sharp, and also has a great article where Robert and Image publisher Eric Stephenson talk extensively about the past 10 years of TWD and drop some knowledge that you don't already know, you bunch of know-it-alls.

Yeah, it's a fun little project... but don't worry, it'll probably be the 20th anniversary before we do issue 2 in color!! Probably...

I've been reading Walking Dead since issue #1. I first picked it up because I didn't believe a comic about zombies would be that interesting. I was wrong. It was unbelievably interesting and I was hooked. Now it's issue #113 and I don't know what the hell I'm reading any more. I feel like this title lost its humanity a long time ago. Now I'm reading it out of habit and there's a sigh before I open up every issue as I prepare to read, not a title about survival, but instead it seems to be about whatever new torture you can think to put the characters through. This title feels like it's just a character meat grinder now and it's lost (for me at least) any spark of hope that made past story lines so intense and enjoyable. I want to thank you for so many years of entertainment, but I can no longer go with you on this journey. I just don't see what the point is anymore, but I really did have a great time while it lasted.

Thanks,
Walter

I think large part of this storyline is precisely about hope. Rick and his team have accepted that this war may be their only shot at building a better world. But is it really possible? I hope you stick

around to find out, but no hard feelings if you don't. A great time is all you can ask for.

No worries, Walter. If it's not your cup of tea, I understand. I would ask that you, at some point in the future, maybe read a collection or two in a nice comfy chair at Barnes and Noble while your wife shops at the mall or something. You may enjoy them and come back... or not.

Guys,

I had a couple thoughts for you. The first is about cars; it annoys me when a character panics when they see one or more of the undead and plow into them at 60 mph, then end up limping away with a trail of Zombies after them. I see them do this in this comic (and others), the TV series, and every Zombie movie since the 80's. I wish somebody would learn to put the car in low gear and cruse through at 15-20mph---they'll bounce off no problem. If one does fall in front of you, well we've all seen "Toxic Avenger".

The second is a siege idea should you guys be open to it. Negan's place is well fortified, except for one oversight on his part---ample use of natural light, (large windows--lots of them). OK first they'll need to construct a catapult that will fit in the bed of a truck (surely some of the survivors were Boy Scouts). Next they'll need some PVC buckets (they'll break on impact--they'll want this), and some Styrofoam coolers (doesn't matter if they're broke or whole). Break apart the cooler into those little balls, put in bucket. Now, take some gas and dissolve the Styrofoam into a gooey jell, stock a rag or towel in it. Use the catapult to punch these babies in to Negan's sanctuary (remember to light the towel). "I love the smell of napalm in the morning. . . that gasoline smell, it reminds me of..Victory."

Do the Boy Scouts really teach all this?! I'd suggest they advertise better.

Can we get into legal trouble for printing this letter? Uh... don't try this at home, kids.

Last, I'd hate to see Negan get killed. Not when Rick has a surgeon who can safely amputate both his arms and his legs (feed them to the tiger). Then Negan would have to be taken care of by people who hate him. That is till he talks Carl into killing him.

You're full of ideas!

I hope you guys find this interesting. And by the way, I would like to thank you... Years ago you were at Heroes Con in Charlotte, NC; my son and I were getting some Marvel Zombies stuff signed. You and he talked for a little bit, and you gave him the first 2 of those 6 issue volumes of the Walking Dead... It made a big impression on him. I found that very cool.

Thank you,
Charles Wolfe

I love giving away free comics! Good to hear this one worked out. Tell your son I said hello!

Kirkman (or whoever posted this: I am always unclear as to who is speaking in the different comment fonts),

I get bold, Robert gets italics.

I'm also GRAY or something... right? I thought it was pretty clear!

In WD #105 "Letter Hacks" you mentioned your beliefs regarding what would happen if society fell apart, and the difficulties you find with this thought: particularly that it seems to imply that humans are "inherently bad" and that civilization is thus needed to keep them at bay (did I capture that correctly?)

Look, we should NOT be held accountable for things we've said in past Letter Hacks. It's unfair. However, you left off the point where Robert says, "I don't think I really believe this, I think it's more that I believe this is POSSIBLY true."

I'm writing to say, that you don't have to worry about how to balance this belief as precariously as you may think. Humanity doesn't need to be inherently bad nor inherently evil; humanity simply needs to

be inherently animal.

It then follows that civilization need not be something to keep back the tides of humanity, but rather something that recognizes the inherent animal nature of our species and works with it; something which we've designed, through a highlight of our species particular strengths, in an attempt to overcome our particular weaknesses.

Anyway, I find peace in that.

Regards,
Jim Nave
Portland, OR

That works, too.

Robert "The Devil" Kirkman and Sean (I still miss Sina though),

Would you, if you had to see him as much as we still do?

No kidding... SHEESH.

I'm here to complain about (no, not tigers) everyone in this book gets laid. EVERYONE but Carl. I know, he's 9-10 years old but HEY! It's the apocalypse! Things change. Maybe a time skip after All Out War... C'mon, boy got shot twice, lost his eye, mom and half-sister, he needs some fun!

Lucas Carvalho
Rio de Janeiro

I'm not comfortable talking about pre-pubescent sexuality here. This is America after all. We've only recently publicly acknowledged the existence of bubble butts, a great decades old Brazilian institution.

I'm not touching this one.

Now THAT'S more like it.

It's been a while since I've gotten the old fight or flight feeling from reading TWD. Did I ever explain that to you guys before? You see, the thing about TWD that makes it so great is that unlike ANY other material I've ever come across, it puts me into its world. I experience the same anxiety as the characters in the book when I read TWD. My body literally trembles as my adrenaline flows in preparation for me to either kick some ass or haul ass. (I gave the books to a good friend of mine and he experienced the same thing btw). Reading issue 113 gave me that feeling back. Awesome! Okay I've come to realize you don't like to print positive letters so how about this for a criticism. I think it's shitty that you don't print more positive letters. When something is this good, we (the fans) should get the chance to express our appreciation. So you suck for not letting us tell you, you're great.

How's that?

Frantz Kenol

Positive AND negative. I'm confused on whether that means we still suck...

It's all about making an interesting letters column. You can only say "thanks for the kind words" so many different ways.

Underrated ALL OUT WAR fact: we get to do more Hacks as well! So keep sending in those letters, and we'll keep giving you shit to talk about--and probably reasons to talk that shit.

And hey, while you're here, check out the preview of Skybound's newest title, Manifest Destiny!

-Sean Mackiewicz

WOO HOO!

-Robert Kirkman

23, May 1804. Set out early.
Expect to make La Charette within
one or two days. Current has been mild.
Haven't seen sign of man (or creature)
for over one week. We continue to
carry out the public aspect of
our mission.





*This morning I saw
a new sort of bird.*



*It was too
high for a
detailed
sketch.*



BAM!!

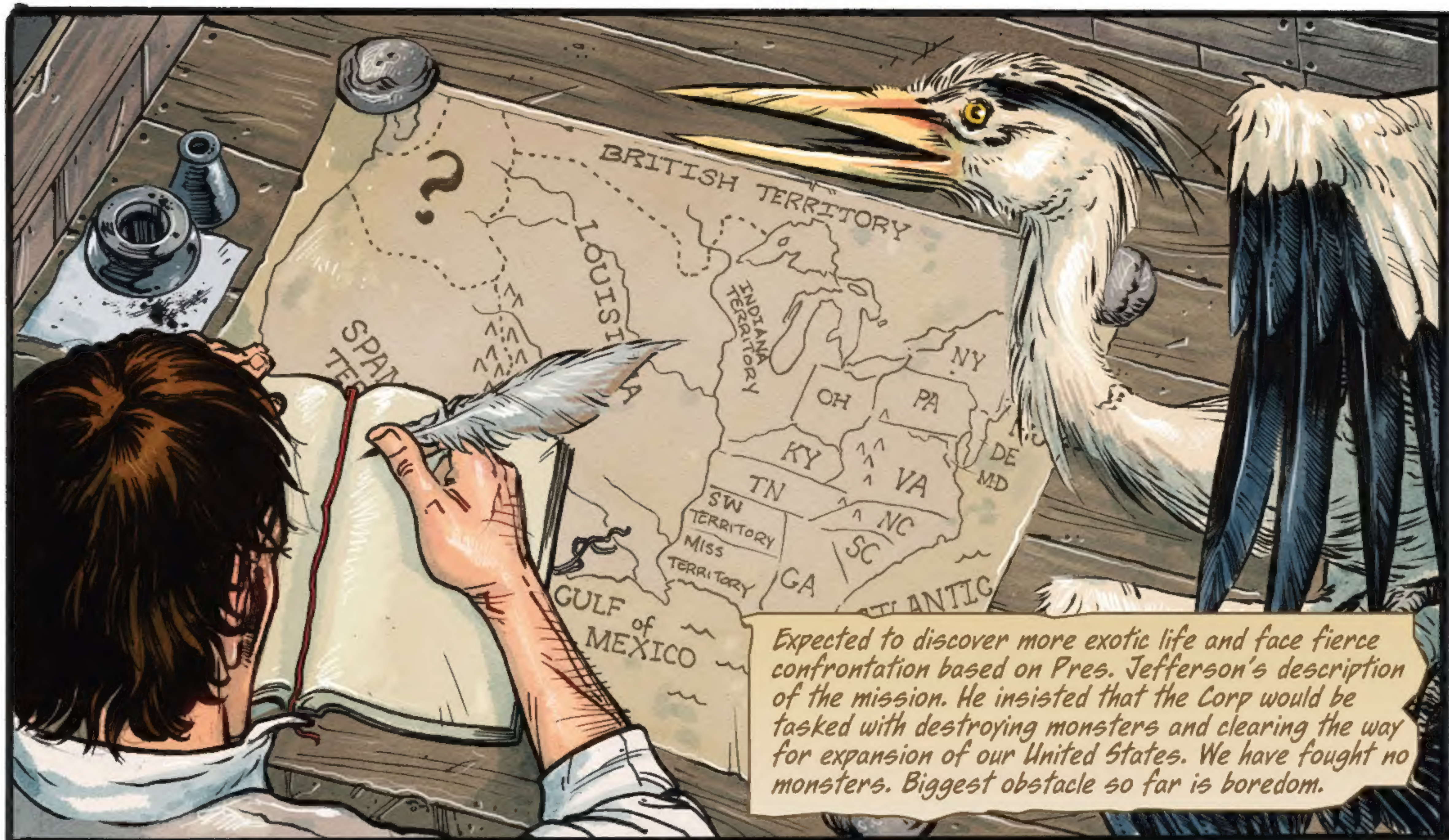


SHRRIP!!

*Clark assisted
in obtaining
the bird. I will
present it with
other samples.*

*I fear that birds,
small game and
Indians will be the
only creatures we
come across.*





They're embarking on the adventure
of a lifetime into the uncharted
American frontier.

But what will they
discover lurking
in the wilds of
the west?

ALL-NEW
SKYBOUND
ORIGINAL
SERIES!

MANIFEST DESTINY™

CHRIS DINGESS MATTHEW ROBERTS OWEN GIENI

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